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U. S. Department of Agriculture

A radio talk by Mr. G. E. Farrell, Extension Service, delivered through Station WRC and 45 other stations associated with the National Broadcasting Company, June 7, 1930.

One hundred sixty farm boys and girls and eighty state leaders from forty states will camp on the grounds of the Department of Agriculture June 18 to 24. These farm boys and girls have been selected as the most outstanding from the 760,000 members of the 4-H Clubs to represent their respective states in the Fourth National 4-H Club Camp. Each state is permitted to send two boys, two girls and two leaders to this national gathering. As guests of the Department of Agriculture, they will enjoy the best that the city of Washington has to offer in citizenship, leadership, and recreation. The Camp of more than seventy tents will be erected under the direction of Major Hills of the War Department. Straight rows of army tents lined up on either side of an open recreation field, with administration tents on the eastern end, present an imposing picture with the new agricultural building of the Department of Agriculture in the background. The new offices of the Secretary of Agriculture overlook the Camp.

The membership of the Camp is made up of veterans of the 4-H Club work - boys and girls who have measured up to the best in local club work, county work, and state round-ups. No member of the Camp has been in the work less than three years and a few have been members for eight full years. These outstanding boys and girls have learned to discipline themselves and the National Camp is operated without rules or petty supervision.

The program of the Camp is a combination of work, play and sightseeing. Each morning there is an address by a man or woman. Secretary Arthur M. Hyde, J. C. Stone of the Federal Farm Board and Judge Florence Allen of the Supreme Court of Ohio will address these morning sessions. The remainder of the morning period will be given over to conferences on the further development of the 4-H Club work. The members of the Camp will study the experimental work at the dairy, animal husbandry and poultry farms at Beltsville. They will journey to the Arlington Farm to look over the work in agronomy and horticulture.

Washington is rich in historical significance. A trip to Mount Vernon - that beautiful colonial home on the banks of the Potomac - will enrich the lives of these farm boys and girls. The iron gates on the tomb of General George Washington and his wife, Martha, will swing open and reverent hands of youth will place a wreath on the resting place of our first farmer president.

On Sunday afternoon, the members of the Camp will journey to Arlington, the old home of Robert E. Lee, and now a national cemetery, to place a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Standing on the steps of the Amphitheater with the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier not fifty feet away, two members of the Camp will advance and place the wreath on the Tomb. These lessons in patriotism and citizenship will remain long after the memories of the Camp have faded away.



The Camp is ever mindful of the 760,000 boys and girls at home who have been excellent 4-H Club members but have not had the privilege of a trip to Washington. Arrangements have been made so that the boys and girls at home may sit in on part of this national meeting. On Monday night, June 23, from 10:30 to 11:00, Eastern Standard Time, the Campfire program will be broadcast from the National Camp. Get your club together, build a campfire, put the loud speaker near it, and join in with the National Camp. A real surprise program will be ready.

The program for the National Camp is complete. The tents will be erected next week. The State delegates will arrive on June 17 and the Camp will be in full swing the next morning. Our only regret is the fact that our camp grounds are limited and that only a few of the members may enjoy it. There will be another camp next year and the year after, and who can tell? Maybe some of you listening in today may in the next few years be coming to Washington to represent your states as a result of excellence in work in a 4-H Club.

